

MAX LUCADO: Lays bare his 'wolverine' heart.

This short article is based on what I posted to Facebook on 14th February 2021: -

This is the grovelling apology letter that MAX LUCADO issued in recent days.

MAX LUCADO

February 11, 2021

Washington National Cathedral
3101 Wisconsin Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Cathedral Community,

It was a high honor to serve as your guest preacher on February 7, 2021. It has come to my understanding that my presence in the Cathedral is a cause of consternation for many of your members.

I was invited to Washington National Cathedral to preach on the topic of the Holy Spirit. My desire was to highlight the power of the Spirit to bring comfort in these chaotic times. However, instead of that sermon, many only heard my words from many years ago.

In 2004 I preached a sermon on the topic of same-sex marriage. I now see that, in that sermon, I was disrespectful. I was hurtful. I wounded people in ways that were devastating. I should have done better. It grieves me that my words have hurt or been used to hurt the LGBTQ community. I apologize to you and I ask forgiveness of Christ.

Faithful people may disagree about what the Bible says about homosexuality, but we agree that God's holy Word must never be used as a weapon to wound others. To be clear, I believe in the traditional biblical understanding of marriage, but I also believe in a God of unbounded grace and love. LGBTQ individuals and LGBTQ families must be respected and treated with love. They are beloved children of God because, they are made in the image and likeness of God.

Over centuries, the church has harmed LGBTQ people and their families, just as the church has harmed people on issues of race, gender, divorce, addiction, and so many other things. We must do better to serve and love one another.

I share the Cathedral's commitment to building bridges and learning how to listen -- to really listen -- to those with whom we disagree. That work is difficult, it is hard, it is messy, and it can be uncomfortable. But we need it now more than ever.

Respectfully,



Max Lucado

Two points 'grabbed' my attention –

1. Mr Lucado wrote 'God's holy Word should never be used as a weapon to wound others' - The Apostle Paul refers to God's Word as "the sword of the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:17) and the writer to the Hebrews says in 4:12 that it "is living and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow and it is a discerners of the thoughts and intents of the heart" - these sound very like 'wounding' references to me.
2. Mr Lucado wrote 'LGBTQ individuals and LGBTQ families (Cecil - even same-sex 'families' which are unnatural and contrary to the creators design for family-living?) must be respected and treated with love. They are beloved children of God'.

Firstly, until someone is genuinely converted, they are not a 'child of God' - after conversion they are THEN "adopted" into the family of God ("Beloved, NOW are we the children of God" 1st John 3:2).

Secondly, should we 'respect' that which God abominates? I think not for we read in Jude 7 "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to FORNICATION, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an EXAMPLE, suffering the vengeance of ETERNAL FIRE".

The most loving way to interact with LGBTQ people is to tell them the truth of what God says about their present life-style and what their eternal state will be unless they "repent and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:15).

MAX LUCADO is 'not fit for purpose' and to revamp and re-apply some terminology found in John 1:27, he is 'not worthy to loose the latchets of the shoes of John the Baptist'.

POSTSCRIPT

Having posted my comments on Facebook, later that day I tuned in to watch the morning service from Grace Community Church where Pastor John MacArthur preached on the things that motivated the Apostle Paul to be a supremely faithful minister of The Gospel. He knew that only a faithful presentation of it would demonstrate that it **"is the power of God unto salvation"** (Romans 1:16). A faithful presentation must include the truth of the Law of God because that targets the only 'ally' the preacher has in the life of an unbeliever, namely their conscience.

That whole Morning Service, including beautiful inspirational and God-honouring praise can be viewed by going to this link –

<https://www.gracechurch.org/sermons/videos/1352>

Pastor MacArthur referred to **2nd Corinthians 4** including **verses 2** which reads “**but we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by the manifestation of THE TRUTH commending ourselves to every man’s CONSCIENCE in the sight of God**”.

It would appear that Paul is responding to false accusations of ‘hidden immorality’ in his life and also of ‘diluting’ or changing the message of The Gospel. In his commentary on **2nd Corinthians**, Geoffrey Wilson writes –

‘As befits the openness of his ministry, Paul has refused to adopt the tactics of the false apostles who gain converts by guile, and who try to hide their shame by accusing him of the very things of which they themselves are guilty. The apostle plainly contrasts the purity of his own conduct and his **honest proclamation** of the Word of God with the **deceitful practice** of these interlopers who **robbed the gospel** of its power to save by their **adulteration of its content** in order to enrich themselves. On the contrary, Paul’s ministry is marked by the open proclamation of the truth and it is solely by this **transparent fidelity** to the whole counsel of God that he expects to commend himself to every conscience of men. For he is confident that the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth **must find an answering echo in every conscience**, even if it is sinfully suppressed by many. “in the sight of God” is added **because conscience holds us accountable to God. Drop the idea of God** and the vitality of conscience is destroyed.

Mr Lucado has not ‘**dropped the idea of God**’ but he has dropped the idea of the **TRUE GOD** as revealed in His Word – he is walking “**in craftiness**” and “**handling the word of God deceitfully**”.

No doubt Mr Lucado is hoping to gain the pleasing approval of those who balk at and reject what the Word of God states clearly on the issues of LGBTQ matters.

Commenting on the second part of **John 7:7** where the Lord said “**but me it (the world) hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil**” Pastor MacArthur said this in his Bible Study notes –

‘A true born-again believer who is living a life for God’s glory should experience the hatred and antagonism of the world’.

If such ‘**hatred and antagonism**’ is experienced then the last thing that a ‘**true born-again believer**’ should ever consider doing is to issue a grovelling apology such as we witness in the letter penned by Mr Lucado. This is not the first occasion for me to air concerns about **Max Lucado** as you can see by going to the article on this link

<https://www.takeheed.info/pdf/February-2014/Max-Lucado.pdf>

In conclusion, I am not the only ministry calling Mr Lucado out on this as you can see by the article on this link –

https://reformationcharlotte.org/2021/02/12/max-lucado-apologizes-to-lgbtq-for-preaching-against-homosexuality-harming-them/?fbclid=IwAR3-R_IFQ0q1o8pbEKr4Sd2kUwrSEYq-M7DROykMBOI4zDoCrIAG25aSnb4

